

5-1-3,2-2

## Attitudes

<b>Grade Level</b>	Fifth
<b>Minimum Time Required</b>	30 Minutes
<b>Materials/Resources</b>	Career Wonders magazine from Labor Market Information Center, Aberdeen (605-626-2314), pages 24 & 25 – one for each student
<b>Subject Area(s)</b>	Guidance

### Project Description:

1. Lead a discussion about what attitude is, the ways we show attitudes and how attitude affects what we do.
2. As a class, read Scenario One and Scenario Two on pages 24 & 25 of Career Wonders.
3. Have each student fill out “Check out your attitude” on page 25.
4. Review and discuss the consequences of the items that show a negative attitude.
5. Have each student write down three things that he/she could do to improve his/her attitude.

<b>Career Development Standard</b>	Knowledge of the importance of self concept. Skills to interact with others.
<b>Career Development Indicator</b>	Describe how behavior influences the feelings and actions of others. Demonstrate effective skills for interacting with others.
<b>Delivery Level</b>	Review
<b>Academic Standards</b>	
<b>Language Arts</b>	2.2.a Use appropriate organization based on the established writing purpose and intended audience.
<b>Employability/SCANS Skills</b>	Basic Skills Thinking Skills Interpersonal Skills
<b>Assessment/Rubric</b>	Students will be evaluated on their written work.

**Submitted by:** Elementary Group NCDG

## What's up with your attitude?

**Do you need to just keep a few things in check, or check it at the door?**

Which of the two scenarios below best describes your attitude about school?

### SCENARIO ONE:

On Monday morning your alarm clock goes off. You hit the snooze twice before finally shutting it off. A half an hour later your Mom is shaking you and telling you that you're late for school. Ten minutes later you crawl out of bed. You throw on yesterday's jeans and tee shirt and head off to school.

You're hungry and would like some breakfast, but there's no time. You get to school late. On your way to your first class you realize that you forgot to bring the science experiment that you worked on with Braden and Sam most of the weekend. It was due today, and if it's late you and your friends will have to accept a lower grade than you deserve. While they were working on the project, you were busy chatting with friends online. Once you're in the classroom your teacher starts hassling you about showing up late for class. He even has the nerve to tell you that you look like you just crawled out of bed. You take your seat and glare at him for the rest of the class period. You'll show him...you're not going to take any notes...even though you know you will be quizzed on his lecture tomorrow. Whatever! You couldn't take notes if you wanted to, because you left your notebook in your locker anyway.

### SCENARIO TWO:

On Monday morning your alarm goes off. You hit the snooze once...you can hardly believe that it's time to get up already. In about five minutes your alarm clock goes off again.

You're still not ready to get up. But you know if you don't your older sister will beat you to the bathroom and you'll run the chance of being late for school. So, you slowly crawl out of bed and head for the shower. After a good hot shower, you feel more awake and ready to start the day. Back in your bedroom you scan your closet looking at what there is to wear. You finally decide on your newest jeans and a tee shirt that your Mom just washed for you yesterday.

In the kitchen you sit down to a bowl of cereal and an apple. When you're finished you grab your book bag and head out the door. Three blocks from home you remember you forgot the science project Braden, Sam and you worked on most of the weekend. You know you'll be late if you turn back now. But then you remember all the work you three did this weekend and the fact that you could get demoted a grade on the project if it's late. Besides, you sure wouldn't want to let Braden and Sam down. So you turn back toward home.

When you arrive at school you're a few minutes late. You go to the school office and get a truancy slip. When you walk into class you apologize for being late and put your group's science project on the table with the rest of the projects. Then you quietly take your seat and begin taking notes so you can review them for the quiz tomorrow.

So which scenario do you think best describes the way you might approach the same situation? Maybe a combination of both?

## Attitude does make a big difference!

Believe it or not, much of the way you conduct yourself in school will probably follow you into the world of work. A bad or negative attitude might be funny now. Maybe some people will even think you're cool. But you might have to pay for it with bad grades and time in detention. Maybe right now you think it's worth it, but you haven't even started paying for it yet. If you continue with your negative attitude, you'll find that it will be hard to get and keep jobs. At the very least, you'll find that your opportunities for raises might pass you by and that few people will want you to be on their working team.

## Check out your attitude!

Put a checkmark in the boxes by those attitudes that you think are positive; draw an X in those boxes you feel are not positive.

- ☐ Willing to help others.
- ☐ Wearing dirty and rumpled clothing.
- ☐ Being a responsible team member by doing your share of work on time.
- ☐ Dressing neatly and being well groomed.
- ☐ Showing up late and making a scene.
- ☐ Coming to a class or meeting unprepared.
- ☐ Blaming others for your mistakes.
- ☐ Taking responsibility for your actions.
- ☐ Showing up for school on time. When you have to be late making sure it's a good reason and admitting that you are late but not asking for special treatment because of it.
- ☐ Showing respect for your teachers.